

Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 34th Session

Universal Periodic Review of El Salvador

Statement by Australia

Monday 4 November 2019

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends El Salvador on its recent peaceful national elections and progress it has made in reducing violence in the country.

Australia recommends that **El Salvador**:

1. **Make the necessary constitutional and legislative amendments in order to decriminalise and remove the ban on abortion.**
2. **Continue its work to combat violence against women and children, take measures to protect victims of violence based on their sexual orientation and gender identity, and allocate adequate resources for programs ensuring the full enjoyment of the rights of women, children and LGBTI persons.**
3. **Put in place measures to ensure its domestic security policies and actions respect human rights, including mechanisms to prosecute human rights violations by security forces.**
4. **Abolish the death penalty for all crimes, noting that El Salvador has abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes.**

[139 words]